

The December 24, 2002 Office Action required restriction from among:

- Group I: Claims 1-7, drawn to *Borrelia* protein, classified in class 530, subclass 350;
- Group II: Claims 8-12, drawn to antibody, classified in class 424, subclass 164.1;
- Group III: Claim 30, drawn to mutant *Borrelia* organism, classified in class 435, subclass 252.1;
- Group IV: Claims 13-17 and 23-25, drawn to method and kit for detection using antibody classified in class 435, subclass 7.1; and
- Group V: Claims 27-29, drawn to method of immunization, classified in class 424, subclass 9.2.

Applicants hereby elect the claims of Group I, without traverse. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the remaining groups through the filing of subsequent divisional applications. Consequently, reconsideration and withdrawal of the restriction requirement is respectfully requested.

An early and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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